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ASH GROVE CEMENT COMPANY



"WESTERN REGION"

January 10, 2005

Suzanne Skadowski
Seattle District, Regulatory Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
PO Box 3755
Seattle, WA 98124-2255

Re: Urgently Needed Dock Repair – Ash Grove Cement Company

Dear Ms. Skadowski:

Ash Grove Cement Company (Ash Grove) is requesting a Nationwide Permit 3 for urgently needed repairs at the Ash Grove Cement barge unloading facility. The existing rubber tires protecting the dock face are worn to the point where they no longer provide adequate protection when barges land at the dock. These tires must be replaced with a fendering system as quickly as possible to prevent damage to the facility and risk to safety.

The bottom of the fendering system will extend one foot below mean lower low water (MLLW). Installation will be done from a barge or the dock and all work will take place above water. No bottom sediments will be disturbed. Construction will not create noise or disturbance greater than normal barge unloading operations.

Because this project occurs above water and uses equipment (e.g., barges) that already occur on the site daily, Ash Grove Cement requests the flexibility to conduct this work beyond the February 15 fish window, should the required permits not be obtained on time.

Please contact Sasha Visconty at 206-903-3310 or by e-mail at svisconty@anchorenv.com if you need further information to process the application. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention.

Sincerely,

Craig Puljan, Plant Manager
Ash Grove Cement Company

